(d) In the area of mud housing technology, different R&D groups are working on for improving traditional methods (like Adobe, rammed earth wattle and daub) as well as for developing new techniques which include compacted and stabilised mud blocks, pneumatically rammed earth etc. Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) have formulated specifications for soil based blocks.

Urban Development Project in Maharashtra

3223. SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY :
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of Central Grants for the various Urban Development Projects given to the Maharashtra State during the year 1992-93;

(b) whether Maharashtra Government has spent all the grants or whether any such money has lapsed; and

(c) whether there was any delay in the disbursement of grants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) and (b) Since Urban Development is a State subject, the Planning Commission requires that all urban development projects should form part of the State plan. However, one time special grant of Rs. 100 crores was sanctioned in 1987 by the Government of India to the Government of Maharashtra for tackling the problems of slums and housing in Bombay. Out of Rs. 100 crores Rs. 88 crores have been released to the State Government. The balance will be released based on its performance and compliance of conditions subject to which the special assistance was granted. In addition, on the recommendation of the Ninth Finance Commission, a one time grant-in-aid of Rs. 50 crores was sanctioned to Government of Maharashtra for slum clearance and environmental improvement of slums and provision of basic amenities in the city of Bombay with the condition that the State Government would also make a matching provision of the same amount for this purpose. Against this, the Ministry of Finance had released Rs. 48.33 crores as Central share with reference to the provision made by the State Government. Recently, an additional Central assistance of Rs. 20 crores has been allocated by the Planning Commission for tackling special problems of Bombay during 92-93 Annual Plan.

(c) No, Sir.

Construction of Memorial in Delhi

3224. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to build a suitable memorial in Delhi in honour of those known and unknown men and women who laid down their lives in fighting communal strife and violance; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Urban Development has not received any proposal for building such a memorial.

Allocation of Land to Schools and Educational Institutions in Delhi

3225. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU :
SHRI SURESH KALMADI :
SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have evolved a policy to accorded the highest priority for allocation of land to schools and educational institutions in Delhi; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) No policy has

been evolved by the Government to accord the highest priority for allocation of land to schools and educational institutions in Delhi.

(b) Not applicable in view of reply to (a) above.

Shortage of drinkink water in metropolitan cities

3226. SHRI RAJANI RANJAN SAHU : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that there is acute shortage of drinking water in metropolitan cities, and

(b) if so, what measures Government propose to take to increase the availability of drinking water

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) and (b) Water Supply is a state subject. It is the responsibility of the State Government/local body to provide adequate safe drinking water to the people in urban areas including metropolitan cities.

Due to rapid urbanisation and scarcity of raw water on account of depletion of ground water sources and lack of nearby surface water resources, the demand for drinking water as well as the cost for providing the same is increasing.

The Ministry of Urban Development has drawn the attention of the State Governments to the need for making the sector self-sustaining by cost recovery through user charges and conferring greater autonomy to the corporations/municipalities in the matter of fixation tariffs.

World Bank assistance is being provided for augmentation of water supply facilities in Bombay, Madras and Hyderabad under the following projects :—

Project	Cost (Rs. Crores)	World Bank assistance (US $ Million)
1. 3rd Bombay Water Supply & Sewerage . . .	800.0	185.0
2. Madras Water Supply & Sanitation . . .	205.0	69.0
3. Hyderabad Water Supply & Sanitation . .	257.06	79.9

Fire in Udyog Bhavan, New Delhi

3227. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the extent of damage caused by fire which took place in Udyog Bhavan, New Delhi on 4th March, 1993;

(b) what are the reasons therefor ;

(c) the names of high-rise buildings owned by Government and private concerns in Delhi for which fire clearance certificate have not so far been obtained and the raesons therefor; and

(d) what action Government have taken or propose to take against the defaulters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON- : (a) Office records, furniture, electrical fittings, false ceiling etc. are reported to have been damaged due to fire on the 4th and 5th floors in Udyog Bhawan.

(b) The Committee constituted by CPWD to enquire into the fire in Udyog Bhawan has not been able to pinpoint the specific cause of fire.

(c) A list of unsafe government and private high-rise buildings is given in the statement attached (*See* below). Fire clearance certificate are issued by the Delhi Fire Service on completion of all fire safety related measures in the high rise buildings.

(d) The Delhi Fire Service had issued notices to occupiers of unsafe government and private buildings deficient in fire safety